

REMARKS

In the last Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph and allowed claim 5.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the allowance of independent claim 5.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph. In the Office Action, the Examiner contended that there is no description support in the original specification for sintering the mixture at a temperature of from "about 800°C to about 900°C," as included in independent claim 1. Similarly, the Examiner contended that there is no description support in the original specification for the material having a temperature coefficient of resistivity of between "about 40 ppm/K and 50 ppm/K over a temperature range of about 160K to about 350K," as included in independent claim 8.

Applicants respectfully disagree. For example, by specifying a range of temperatures to the nearest 100°C, the phrase "800°C to 900°C," which appears in the original specification, clearly discloses to one of ordinary skill in the art that the range "800°C to 900°C" is not the only operable temperature range. Rather, one skilled in the art would interpret this range to include both temperatures slightly below 800°C and slightly above 900°C. Similarly, one skilled in the art would interpret the phrase "between 40 ppm/K and 50 ppm/K over a temperature range of 160K to 350K" to include coefficients of resistivity slightly outside the range of 40 ppm/K to 50 ppm/K and temperatures slightly outside of the range of 160K to 350K.

Nevertheless, by this Amendment, Applicants have proposed to remove the "about" language from claims 1 and 8. In view of these proposed amendments, the

Section 112, 1st paragraph rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-9 is moot and should be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 1-9 in condition for allowance. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments of claims 1 and 8 do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, because all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

Applicants also submit that the entry of the amendment would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

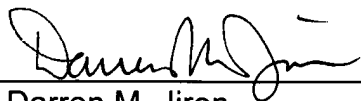
In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants request entry of this Amendment, reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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